

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2 and 10-14 are presented for consideration on their merits. Claims 3-9 have been cancelled.

The instant Amendment responds to the Office Action of May 11, 2009, and the Interview Summary of July 23, 2009. Claim 1 and independent claim 10 have been revised, in minor respects, to emphasize that the first and second arms of applicant's door stay are secured to the handles on opposite sides of a door, by a band 15. The band or loop 15 is shown in FIGS. 1-4A, while elastic banding 19 is shown in FIG. 5, a Velcro strap 21 is shown in FIG. 6, and a ribbon 24 is shown in FIG. 7.

Claim 1, while not generic to all of the embodiments of applicant's door stay, encompasses the related embodiments shown in FIGS. 1-7. Dependent claims 2 and 10 stress other aspects of applicant's invention.

Claims 11, 12 and 13 are drawn to encompass the embodiment of applicant's door stay shown in FIGS. 8-10. The band or loop, emphasized in claim 1, is replaced by openings in the first and second arms of the door stay. The openings are slipped over the door handles, on the opposite sides of a door, and the arms suspend the body of the door stay in proximity to the edge of a door. The openings can be elasticized to provide a snug fit on the handles of the door, as noted in the specification at lines 6-11 of page 9. The thickness of the body of the toy is also emphasized, in the same manner as claim 1, as presently amended.

The Examiner indicated that claim 1, as amended, overcame the "current rejection." Claim 11, while emphasizing the openings in the paw areas of the first and second arms of the door stay, so that the thickened body of the toy is suspended over an edge of a door, parallels the terminology of claim 1. Claims 12-13, which depend from independent claim 11, point out additional features of interest.

The patents to Zacherl, Schjoneman, Kronmiller, Flegel and Radcliff, have been carefully considered, but do not anticipate, or render obvious applicant's unique door stay, as expressed in claims 1, and 10-13. To illustrate, Zacherl relies upon suction cups 16 to position toy 11 relative to door D, as shown in FIGS. 3 and 4. Schjoneman discloses a flexible rubber dumbbell with a narrow central section 16 that does not preclude the door from closing to a point at which the

door is contained in the door frame. Prompt and favorable consideration of the Amendment is believed to be in order.

The courtesies extended by the Examiner, at the interview of July 20, 2009, are noted and appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

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